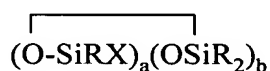


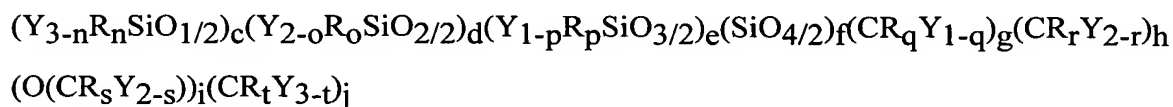
Amendments to the Claims

1. (Original) A method comprising heating in the presence of a catalyst, a mixture comprising

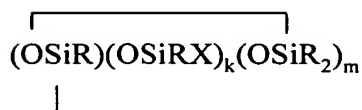
(i) a reaction product obtained by mixing in the presence of a platinum group metal-containing catalyst at least one organohydrogensilicon compound containing at least one silicon-bonded hydrogen atom per molecule and at least one compound having at least one aliphatic unsaturation; where the organohydrogensilicon compound is described by formula (I)



where each R is independently selected from a hydrogen atom and a monovalent hydrocarbon group comprising 1 to 20 carbon atoms which is free from aliphatic unsaturation, a is an integer from 1 to 18, b is an integer from 1 to 19, a + b is an integer from 3 to 20, each X is an independently selected functional group selected from a halogen atom, an ether group, an alkoxy group, an alkoxyether group, an acyl group, or a silyl group, or a -Z-R<sup>4</sup> group, where each Z is independently selected from an oxygen and a divalent hydrocarbon group comprising 2 to 20 carbon atoms, each R<sup>4</sup> group is independently selected from -BR<sub>u</sub>Y<sub>2-u</sub>, -SiR<sub>v</sub>Y<sub>3-v</sub>, or a group described by formula (II):



where B refers to boron, each R is as described above, the sum of c+d+e+f+g+h+i+j is at least 2, n is an integer from 0 to 3, o is an integer from 0 to 2, p is an integer from 0 to 1, q is an integer from 0 to 1, r is an integer from 0 to 2, s is an integer from 0 to 2, t is an integer from 0 to 3, u is an integer from 0 to 2, v is an integer from 0 to 3, each Y is an independently selected functional group selected from a halogen atom, an ether group, an alkoxy group, an alkoxyether group, an acyl group, or a silyl group, or a Z-G group, where Z is as described above, each G is a cyclosiloxane described by formula (III):



where R and X are as described above, k is an integer from 0 to 18, m is an integer from 0 to 18, k+m is an integer from 2 to 20, provided in formula (II) that one of the Y groups is replaced by the Z group bonding the R<sup>4</sup> group to the cyclosiloxane of formula (I), and provided further at least one X group of Formula (I) is a -Z-R<sup>4</sup> group;

(ii) at least one endblocker described by formula (IV) R'<sub>3</sub>SiO(MeR'SiO)<sub>z</sub>SiR'<sub>3</sub>,

where z ranges from 0 to 150 and each R' is independently chosen from alkyl, aryl, alkenyl, dienyl or functional alkyls where the functionality may be fluoro, fluoroether, polyether, ether, aryl, silyl, siloxy, carboxy, glycosidyl or acrylate, and optionally

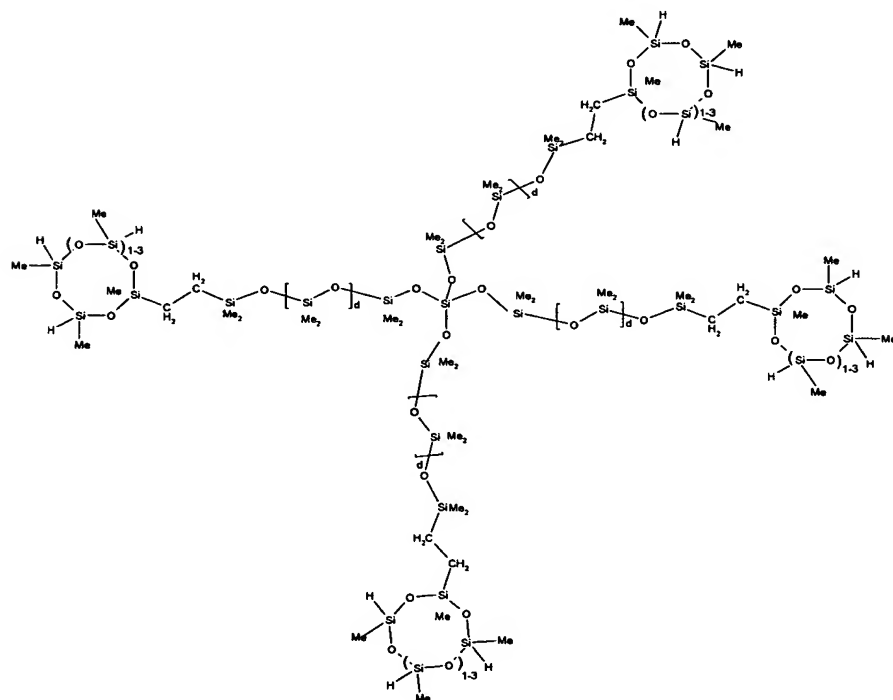
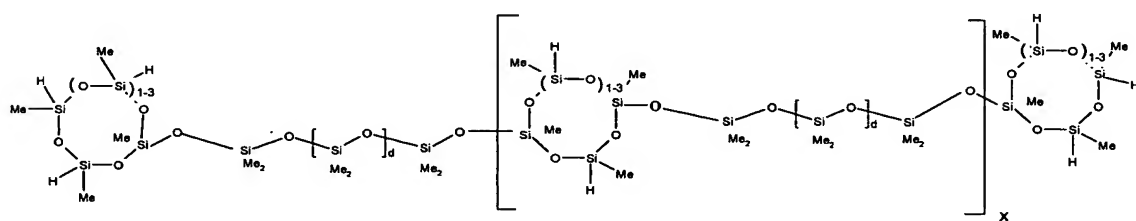
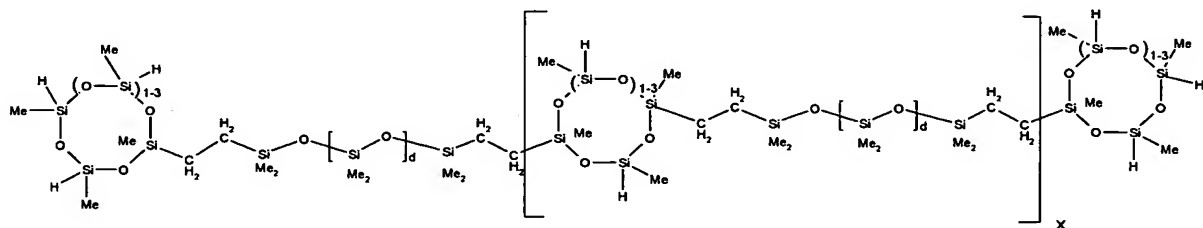
(iii) at least one organosiloxane chosen from a hydrolyzate described by formula (V) HO(MeR'SiO)<sub>y</sub>'H and a cyclosiloxane described by formula (VI) (MeR'SiO)<sub>y</sub> where y is an integer from 3 to 30, y' is an integer from 1 to 500, and each R' is as described above; so to cause polymerization of components (i), (ii), and optionally (iii) to form branched polymers.

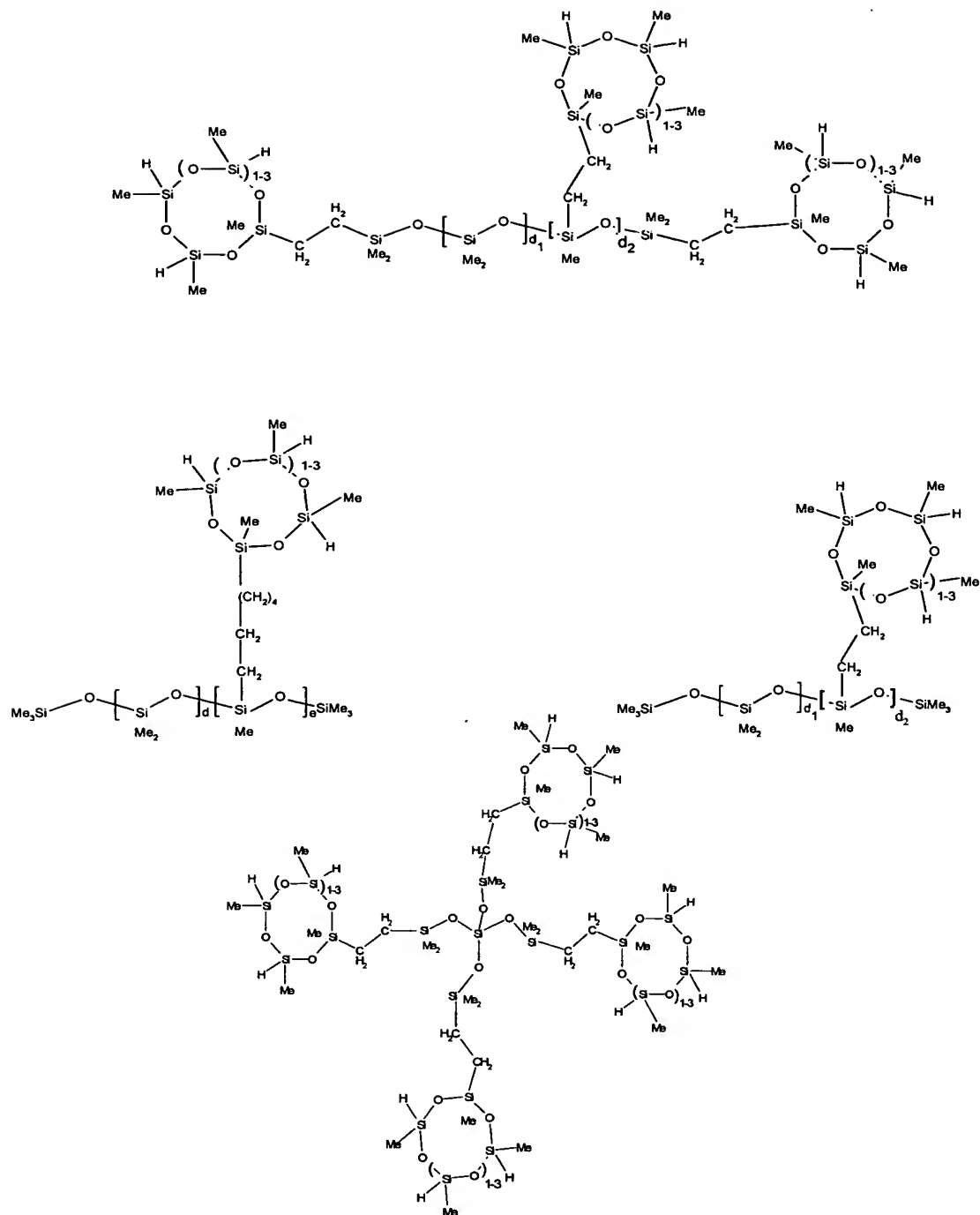
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 where subscript b is an integer from 2 to 19, subscript c is an integer from 0 to 50, subscript d is an integer from 0 to 5000, subscript e is an integer from 0 to 48, subscript f is an integer from 0 to 24, subscript g is an integer from 0 to 50, subscript h is an integer from 0 to 50, subscript i is an integer from 0 to 50, and subscript j is an integer from 0 to 50.

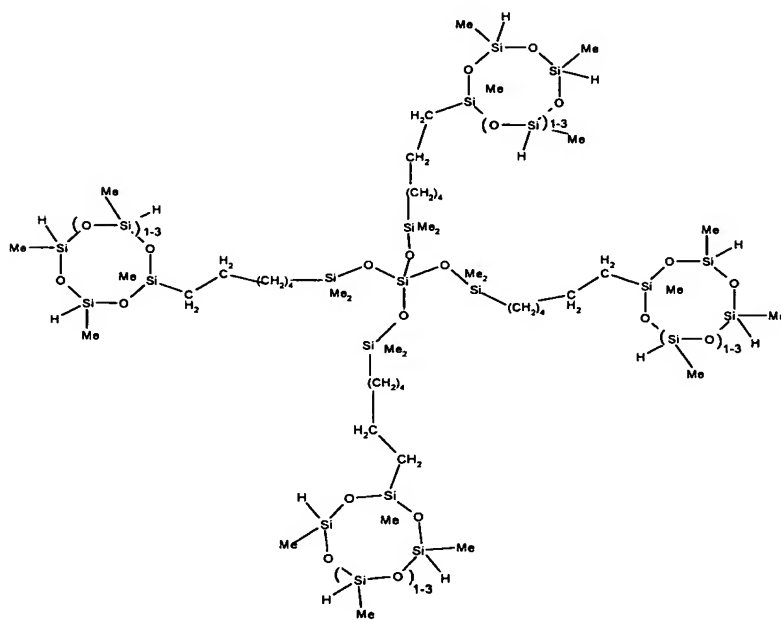
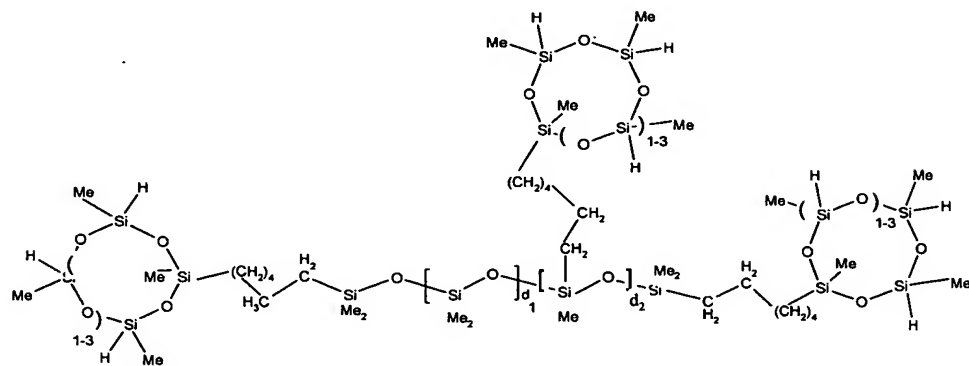
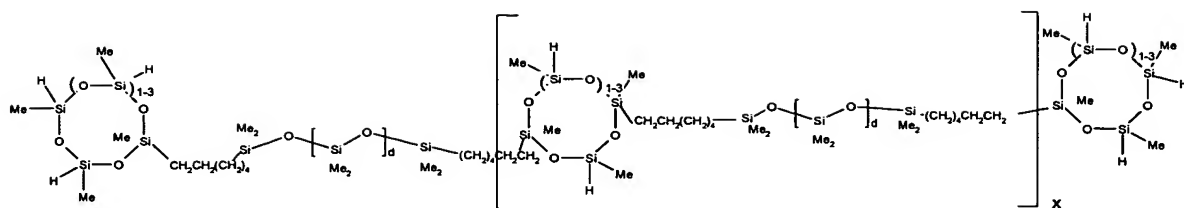
3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 [[or 2]] where each R group is independently selected from hydrogen atoms, alkyl groups comprising 1 to 8 carbon atoms, or aryl groups comprising 6 to 9 carbon atoms, each X is a Z-R<sup>4</sup> group or is independently selected from chloro, methoxy, isopropoxy, where Z is a divalent hydrocarbon group, and R<sup>4</sup> is selected from -CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>-,

-CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>-, -O(CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>z'</sub>-, where z' = 1-100, O(CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>z''</sub>-, where z'' = 1-100 and siloxane groups described by -R<sub>2</sub>SiO(R<sub>2</sub>SiO)<sub>d</sub>SiR<sub>2</sub>-Z-G, -R<sub>2</sub>SiOSiR<sub>3</sub>,

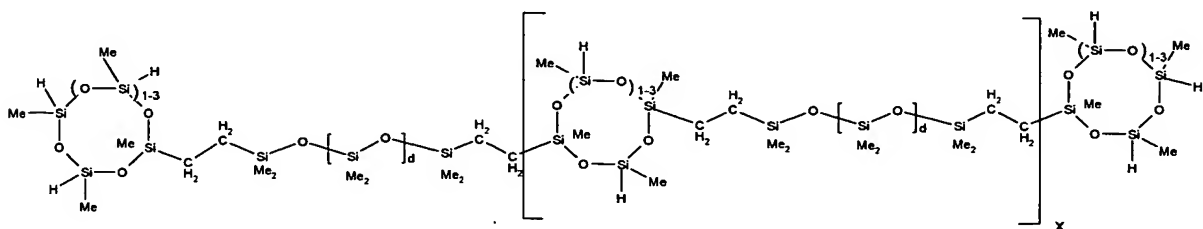
-R<sub>2</sub>SiOSiR<sub>2</sub>-Y, and -RSi(OSiR<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, where d is an integer from 1 to 50 and Z, G, and R are as described above.







5. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~any of claims 1 to 4~~ as claimed in claim 1 where the organohydrogensilicon compound is described by the structure below where Me is methyl, d is an average of 8, and x is an integer from 1 to 15.



6. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~any of claims 1 to 5~~ as claimed in claim 1 where R' is independently chosen from alkyl, fluoroalkyl, or alkenyl, component (ii) is added in amounts from 3 to 1000 parts by weight based on 100 parts by weight of component (i), and component (iii) is added in amounts from 0 to 1000 parts by weight.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~any of claims 1 to 7~~ as claimed in claim 1 where a sufficient ratio of aliphatic unsaturation to Si-H is used so that all the silicon-bonded hydrogen bonds on the organosilicon compound are reacted.

9. (Currently Amended) A branched polymer made by the method of ~~any of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1.

10. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising a branched polymer made by the method of ~~any of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1.

11. (Original) A composition comprising a branched polymer made by the method of claim 8, a Si-H crosslinker, a platinum-group containing catalyst, and an inhibitor.

12. (New) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the catalyst is selected from triflic acid, dipotassium dimethylsilanolate, phosphazene bases, acid ion exchange resins and acid clays.

13. (New) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the amount of catalyst is in the range of 10 parts per million to 2 parts by weight based on the total weight percent solids in the composition.

14. (New) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the heating of the mixture is carried out in the presence of a solvent.